

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A vehicle operation control method for controlling an actual steering angle of driven wheels based on a steering angle of a steering wheel and a vehicle velocity, comprising:

5 a first step of obtaining a change amount in the steering angle by the steering wheel;

a second step of controlling a variable gain based on the vehicle velocity;

10 a third step of multiplying the change amount in the steering angle obtained in the first step with the variable gain controlled in the second step;

a fourth step of integrating results of multiplications in the third step; and

15 a fifth step of controlling the actual steering angle of the steering wheel based on a result of the integration in the fourth step.

2. The vehicle operation control method according to claim 1 in which a transmission ratio changing mechanism for changing a transmission ratio by a drive of a motor is provided halfway
20 of a steering transmission system connecting the steering wheel with the driven wheels,

the variable gain controlled in the second step being a transmission ratio attained by the transmission ratio changing mechanism.

25 3. A vehicle operation control apparatus for controlling an actual steering angle of driven wheels based on a steering angle of a steering wheel and a vehicle velocity, comprising:

a steering angle change amount obtaining means for obtaining a change amount in the steering angle by the steering wheel;

30 a variable gain control means for controlling a variable gain based on the vehicle velocity;

a multiplying means for multiplying the change amount in the steering angle obtained by the steering angle change amount obtaining means with the variable gain controlled by the variable

gain control means;

an integrating means for integrating results of
multiplications by the multiplying means; and

an actual angle controlling means for controlling the
5 actual steering angle of the driven wheels based on a result
of the integration by the integrating means.

4. The vehicle operation control apparatus according to claim
3 in which a transmission ratio changing mechanism for changing
a transmission ratio by a drive of a motor is provided halfway
10 of a steering transmission system connecting the steering wheel
with the driven wheels,

the variable gain controlled by the variable gain control
means being a transmission ratio attained by the transmission
ratio changing mechanism.

15 5. A vehicle operation control method for controlling an
actual steering angle of driven wheels based on a steering angle
of a steering wheel and a vehicle velocity, wherein

if information that the steering wheel is not being turned
or information that the steering wheel is being turned without
20 affecting the steering of the driven wheels is obtained based
on the change amount in the steering angle by the steering wheel,
changes in the actual steering angle of the driven wheels is
restricted.

6. A vehicle operation control apparatus for controlling an
25 actual steering angle of driven wheels based on a steering angle
of a steering wheel and a vehicle velocity, further comprising
a control means which if information that the steering wheel
is not being turned or information that the steering wheel is
being turned without affecting the steering of the driven wheels
30 is obtained based on the change amount in the steering angle
by the steering wheel, restricts changes in the actual steering
angle of the driven wheels.